The Foundations of Disinformation and Misinformation

The term Information disorder was coined by researcher Dr. Claire Wardle to describe the broad societal challenges associated with misinformation and disinformation, generally on the digital landscape, that contribute to the pollution of our evolving information ecosystem. Misinformation is the unintentional spread of false or misleading information, shared by mistake, or under a presumption of truth. Disinformation—false or misleading information that is deliberately spread with an intent to cause harm or damage—is neither new nor unique to the modern day.

From Octavian’s propaganda campaign against Antony in Ancient Rome to ‘The Great Moon Hoax’ of 1835, disinformation has been a favored weapon of politicians, civic leaders and mischief makers around the world. Yet the rise of the internet and the exponential growth of social media use across cultures and communities has dramatically increased the speed and impact of false narratives. The tactics behind disinformation vary widely and further complicates our understanding around source motivation and intention. Knowing how it’s done is just as important when trying to understand why.

Selected Experts on the Topic:

- danah boyd, partner researcher at Microsoft Research, founder and president of Data & Society Research Institute @zephoria
- Renee DiResta, technical research manager at Stanford Internet Observatory @noUpside
- Kolina Koltai, postdoctoral researcher at the Center for an Informed Public at the University of Washington @KolinaKoltai
- Meghna Mahadevan, disinformation defense strategist with United We Dream
- Thomas Rid, professor of Strategic Studies, Johns Hopkins University @RidT
- Claire Wardle, co-founder of First Draft @cward1e

Reading Resources:

- Information Disorder: Toward An Interdisciplinary Framework For Research And Policy Making (First Draft)
- A short guide to the history of ‘fake news’ and disinformation (International Center for Journalists)
- Video: A Brief History Of Disinformation, And What To Do About It (Matt Tait, University of Texas)
- The Long and Brutal History of Fake News (Jacob Soll, Politico)
- Podcast: Thomas Rid on active measures and digital disinformation (Brookings)
- The Future of Truth and Misinformation Online (Janna Anderson And Lee Rainie, Pew Research Center)
- The Misinformation Campaign Was Distinctly One-Sided (Renee DiResta, The Atlantic)
- The long fuse: Misinformation and the 2020 election (Election Integrity Partnership report)
- 20/20 Vision: Lessons learned about the challenges of disrupting misinformation in 2020 (First Draft article series)
- Combatting Digital Disinformation An Evaluation Of The William And Flora Hewlett Foundation’s Disinformation Strategy (Hewlett)
- Digital Democracy: Accelerating A New Field Of Knowledge (Knight Foundation)
- Facebook: From Election to Insurrection (Avaaz report)
- Tackling misinformation: What researchers could do with social media data (HKS Misinformation Review)
- Addressing false information during the 2020 election and lessons for the future (American Press Institute)
Regulation Models from Other Parts of the World

Efforts by various European countries to address distrust and disinformation vary across the continent. Regulating big technology companies and social media platforms is an approach the U.S. has yet to effectively take, presenting opportunities for the American government to learn, adapt and act.

Reading Resources:
- Social media: How do other governments regulate it? (BBC)
- The United States Needs a BBC (Foreign Policy, 2021)
- How the EU’s new digital services act can help build trust and tackle illegal content (Victoria De Posson, Disruptive Competition Project)
- Digital Services Act: Ensuring a trustworthy and safe online environment while allowing freedom of expression (Victoria De Posson, Disruptive Competition Project)
- Twitter, Trump, and Tough Decisions: EU Freedom of Expression and the Digital Services Act (Christoph Schmon, Electronic Frontier Foundation)
- EU Code of Practice on Disinformation: Briefing Note for the New European Commission (Carnegie Endowment)
- Law prohibiting election misinformation struck down (CBC)
- Southeast Asia’s Disinformation Crisis: Where the State is the Biggest Bad Actor and Regulation is a Bad Word (Jonathan Corpus Ong, Insights from the Social Sciences)
- Government Responses to Disinformation on Social Media Platforms: France (Library of Congress)
- Government Responses to Disinformation on Social Media Platforms (Library of Congress)

Selected Experts on the Topic:
- Victoria De Posson, Disruptive Competition Project
- Evelyn Douek, lecturer at Harvard Law School @evelyndouek
- Dr. Aleksandra Kuczerawy
- Christoph Schmon, International Policy director, Electronic Frontier Foundation @EFF
Section 230 has become a political football in terms of platform accountability and responsibility regarding the spread of online misinformation and disinformation. “One highly influential piece of misinformation is that the tech industry is biased against conservative figures and conservative content,” shared Dr. Mary Anne Franks, president of the Cyber Civil Rights Initiative as part of a question for Facebook, Twitter and Google CEOs. “Conservative figures and content actually perform very well on social media sites such as Facebook, even though they disproportionately violate companies’ policies against misinformation and other abuse.” With members of Congress introducing the SAFE TECH Act to address Section 230 concerns, questions are being raised about how this could affect rights protected by the First Amendment.

Reading Resources:

Section 230: Everything You Need to Know—Tweets, Free Speech, Beyond (Mike Masnick, podcast)
Hello! You’ve Been Referred Here Because You’re Wrong About Section 230 Of The Communications Decency Act (Mike Masnick, Techdirt blog)
How Section 230 Enhances the First Amendment (Eric Goldman, American Constitution Society)

First Amendment and Section 230

Selected Experts on the Topic:

Dr. Mary Anne Franks
President of the Cyber Civil Rights Initiative and Professor of Law at the University of Miami @ma_franks

Eric Goldman
internet law professor, Santa Clara University Law School @ericgoldman

Jeff Kosseff
assistant professor of cybersecurity law at the United States Naval Academy, author of “The Twenty-Six Words That Created the Internet” @jkosseff

Mike Masnick
founder and CEO of the Copia Institute @mmasnick

The history of Section 230 (60 Minutes, with Jeff Kosseff)

Speech on the internet: The First Amendment and Section 230 are different (Marketplace)

Six Constitutional Hurdles For Platform Speech Regulation (Daphne Keller, Center for Internet and Society)
Mapping Worldwide Initiatives to Counter Influence Operations (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace)
Selected Experts on the Topic:

Meredith Broussard
research director at the NYU Alliance for Public Interest Technology
@merbroussard

Panayiota (Pani) Kendeou
Educational Psychology, co-author of the Debunking Handbook
@Kendeou

Eric Saund
Research scientist in Cognitive Science and AI

Jason Stanley
philosophy
@jasonintrator

Social media may have provided a space for mis and disinformation to spread, but questions around why people believe and share false content and how they became radicalized must be addressed as well. What roles do cognitive biases and mental shortcuts, as described by behavioral economics, and the development of algorithms affect or even degrade our information ecosystem?

Reading Resources:

‘Exit Counselors’ Strain To Pull Americans Out Of A Web Of False Conspiracies (Tovia Smith, NPR)

COVID lies, conspiracy theories build on boredom, beliefs (Kathrin Wesolowski, Deutsche Welle)

Political psychology in the digital (mis)information age. A model of news belief and sharing (Preprint)

How Cybersecurity Experts Can Nudge Users To Make Safer Choices (Perry Carpenter, Forbes)

How Facebook got addicted to spreading misinformation (Karen Hao, Tech Review)

Fake News and Anthropology: A Conversation on Technology, Trust, and Publics in an Age of Mass Disinformation (Journal of the Association for Political and Legal Anthropology)
Social media platforms and Big Tech play a pivotal role in both the spread and response to online mis and disinformation. Questions regarding transparency, responsibility and accountability have risen as independent researchers and technologists work to understand how to approach studying platform impact when data and access are restricted. Platform-led efforts, policies and research have been developed internally and with nonprofit organizations, but questions still remain over their effectiveness.

Reading Resources:

All Change No Fix: How Big Tech’s “Self regulation” fails our democracy (Decode Democracy)

A Dozen Experts with Questions Congress Should Ask the Tech CEOs — On Disinformation and Extremism (Just Security)

Can an Oversight Board Created by Facebook Actually Fix the Company’s Failings? (Mother Jones)

Distraction Helps Misinformation Spread, Thinking About Accuracy Can Reduce it (Jigsaw)

Can “Inoculation” Build Broad-Based Resistance to Misinformation? (Jigsaw)

Why content moderation costs billions and is so tricky for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and others (CNBC)

Facebook’s Oversight Board makes an imperfect case for private governance (Brookings)

You and the Algorithm: It Takes Two to Tango (Nick Clegg, Medium)

We need to know more about political ads. But can transparency be a trap? (Madelyn Webb, Bethan John, NiemanLab)
Communities of color and other marginalized groups have consistently been disproportionately affected and targeted by misinformation and disinformation. According to a report by the Senate Intelligence Committee on Russian interference in 2016, “no single group of Americans was targeted by IRA information operatives more than African Americans. By far, race and related issues were the preferred target of the information warfare campaign designed to divide the country.” In 2020, these tactics focused on suppressing voter turnout and spreading medical distrust in minority communities, creating societal harm and individual risk. Understanding the history of targeted disinformation campaigns is critical when trying to develop whole-of-society solutions.

Reading Resources:

- Failure to understand Black and Latinx communities will result in a critical misunderstanding of the impact of disinformation (Jacquelyn Mason, First Draft)
- From vote to virus, misinformation campaign targets Latinos (Will Weissert, AP)
- Michael Tubbs on disinformation, racism, and news deserts (Akintunde Ahmad, Columbia Journalism Review)
- COVID-19 infodemic exacerbates existing religious and racial prejudices (Harrison Mantas, Poynter)
- The challenge of combating fake news in Asian American communities (Terry Nguyen, Vox)
- How a racialized disinformation campaign ties itself to The 1619 Project (Joan Donovan, Brandi-Collins Dexter, Columbia Journalism Review)
Cults, Conspiracy Theories and Thwarting Online Radicalization

Mis- and disinformation has driven individuals to embrace fringe, radical views. Its roots go back decades as a cyclical relationship between public curiosity and the media and entertainment industry have led to the dramatization and amplification of cults and conspiracy theories. The advent of social media and tech platforms gave rise to algorithmic targeting and private online groups, driving people deeper into partisan camps and fabricated belief networks resulting in dangerous, disinfo-fueled events around the world.

Reading Resources:

I Escaped the Cult. But I Couldn’t Escape the Cult Mentality
(Narratively, Daniella Young)

What we can learn from conspiracy theories
(BBC, Zaria Gorvett)

How to talk to conspiracy theorists—and still be kind
(Technology Review, Tanya Basu)

Why Countering Violent Extremism Programs Are Bad Policy
(The Brennan Center for Justice)

Online Extremism: Research, Trends in Internet Activism, Radicalization, and Counter-Strategies
(International Journal of Conflict and Violence)

Could One of Your Facebook Friends Be The Next QAnon Shaman?
(John Semley, The Nation)

Facebook’s Militia Mess
(Tech Transparency Project)

7 Insights From Interviewing Conspiracy Theory Believers
(Jigsaw)
Decline of Trust in Institutions

A decline in trust in American institutions is both a contributing factor in and a victim of information disorder. In 2019, a Pew Research study showed that the public’s trust in both the federal government, news media, and in their personal circles have decreased. Prior to the pandemic, a majority of the respondents said they trusted medical doctors, researchers and scientists, but trust in scientists and medical researchers declined. In an essay published in 2020, Richard Edelman, CEO of the communications firm Edelman, said “every institution must play its part in restoring facts to their rightful place at the center of public discourse as the essential step to emerging from information bankruptcy.”

Selected Experts on the Topic:

Martin Gurri
a former media analyst at the CIA
@mguir

Richard Edelman
CEO of Edelman,
Edelman Trust Index
@richardwedelman

Rebecca Stavick
CEO, Community Information Trust
@RebeccaStavick

Ethan Zuckerman
UMass Amherst; former director of the MIT Center for Civic Media.
Author of “How do we Regain Trust in Institutions?”
@EthanZ

Reading Resources:

The elites have failed
(Vox)

How to Put Out Democracy’s Dumpster Fire
(The Atlantic)

Outgoing Washington, Post editor Marty Baron reflects on the state of American journalism
(PBS NewsHour)

(Time)

The ongoing fight against racism in newsrooms
(Jon Allsop, Columbia Journalism Review)

Americans have lost faith in institutions: That’s not because of Trump or ‘fake news’
(Bill Bishop, Washington Post)

Crisis in Democracy: Renewing Trust in America
(Knight Commission on Trust, Media and Democracy)

2021 Edelman Trust Barometer
(Report)

Most Americans—especially Millennials—say libraries can help them find reliable, trustworthy information
(Pew Research Center)

The Global Trust Crisis
(Foreign Policy)
Crisis in Local News and Media

Local news, in crisis before the pandemic, is now facing a cataclysm. Ad revenue has been decimated and consolidation has driven record job cuts. Access to critical trustworthy information for millions of Americans is declining at alarming rates across the country. Into that void has entered partisan information sources, often riddles with falsehoods. Local reporters were unprepared to address the onslaught of misleading and false content that spread on social media and via word-of-mouth accounts on testing, masks and vaccines, complicating the information ecosystem even more.

Reading Resources:

Losing The News: The Decimation of Local News and the Search for Solutions (PEN America—Full report)

A New Tool To Measure The Health Of Local News Ecosystems (Knight Foundation)

Give local journalism a fighting chance by creating a demand for it (Alan Miller, Poynter)

It’s Bigger than Fox News: Time for Mainstream Journalism to Reckon with Monetizing Disinformation and Eroding Truth (Farai Chideya, Medium)

How the government can help save local news without endangering its editorial independence (Poynter, Steven Waldman, Report for America)

Watch Author Margaret Sullivan Explain How the Decline of Local Journalism Undermines American Democracy (Margaret Sullivan, Time)

News And America’s Kids: How Young People Perceive And Are Impacted By The News (Common Sense Media)

Selected Experts on the Topic:

Elizabeth Green
Co-founder & CEO, Chalkbeat, @elizwgreen

Graciela Mochkofsky
Executive Director for Center for Community Media and Spanish Language program director, Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY @gmochkofsky

Tracie Powell
founder of All Digitocracy and a John S. Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford, Program Officer, Borealis Philanthropy @TMPowell

Jim Steyer
founder, Common Sense Media, @jimsteyer @CommonSense

Margaret Sullivan
Washington Post @Sulliview

Steven Waldman
President & Co-founder, Report for America @stevenwaldman
Social media has both evolved and complicated the information landscape. Algorithmic targeting and private groups have driven us further into partisan camps and deepened mistrust into alternative viewpoints. Many legacy and digital media are operating in seemingly different realities, dependent more so on either political influence or audience demands. Disinformation campaigns, reaching a crescendo in the last year, demonized officials at all levels of government and expanded into areas of public health. Americans were exposed to content that depicted elected leaders and candidates as active dangers to their livelihoods and values, with January 6 a consequential outcome. This level of polarization is a critical fracture in the democratic fundamental of political discourse.

Selected Experts on the Topic:

Joan Donovan
Research Director of the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School
@BostonJoan

Brian Guay
Ph.D. Candidate, Duke University
@BrianMGuay

Young Mie Kim
professor, University of Wisconsin–madison

Dave Rand
Professor of Management Science and Brain and Cognitive Sciences at MIT
@DG_Rand

Craig Silverman
media editor at Buzzfeed
@CraigSilverman

Whitney Phillips
professor, Comm & Rhetorical Studies, Syracuse University
@wphillips49

Reading Resources:

Social media is making a bad political situation worse (Rani Molla, Vox)

Fake News Gets More Engagement on Facebook—but Only If It’s Right-Wing (WIRED)

Whose Anger Counts? (Whitney Phillips, Boston Review)

Disinformation Fuels Distrust And Even Violence At All Levels Of Government (Sarah McCammon, NPR)

How shared partisanship leads to social media connections (Peter Dizikes, MIT News)

Facebook Is a Doomsday Machine (Adrienne LaFrance, The Atlantic)

Political sectarianism in America (Science)
Brands, the Commercial Sector and Disinformation

Areas of concern regarding mis and disinformation are not limited to social media platforms and political discourse. Businesses, corporations and financial markets can be greatly affected by false or misleading information, intentional and otherwise. Whether it’s to manipulate stock prices, damage brand reputations or target consumer confidence, disinformation has become a dangerous tactic that marketing and public relations firms may not be prepared to effectively counter. It’s important to understand how brands, businesses and companies are currently being targeted and how they respond to attacks such as deepfakes on an organizational level.

Reading Resources:

Trust, Misinformation And Why Brands Need To Be More Careful Than Ever (Marian Salzman, Forbes)


Business must combat fake news (Edelman, 2019)

Fake news can cause ‘irreversible damage’ to companies—and sink their stock price (Claire Atkinson, NBC News)

Disinformation: Companies in the crosshairs (James Blake, Security Magazine)

Fake news threatens our businesses, not just our politics (Matthew F. Ferraro, Jason C. Chipman, Washington Post)

Disinformation attacks are spreading. Here are 4 keys to protecting your company (Lisa Kaplan, Fortune)

What Comes After The Coherence Crash? (Chris Perry, Medium)

Mergers: Commission fines Facebook 110 million for providing misleading information about WhatsApp takeover (2017)

Dominion vs. Fox News Defamation Filing (2020)

Dominion Voting Systems CEO John Poulos talks elections, death threats and lawsuits (Axios, 2021)

Selected Experts on the Topic:

Steven Brill
Co-CEO, NewsGuard

Michelle Ferrier
Executive Director at Media Innovation Collaboratory/Founder, Troll-Busters.com
@mediaghosts

Chris Perry
Global Chief Innovation Officer, Weber Shandwick
@cperry248

John Poulos
CEO, Dominion Voting Systems (lived experience expert)
Nation-State Threats

Nation-state actors have carried out influence operations during elections in both Europe and the United States. Even though tactics such as network operations, provocations and the coordinated spreading of disinformation have been revealed, this has not deterred the activity from Russia and China. Disinformation efforts have increased during the pandemic and concerns about future threats and targets have increased.

Reading Resources:
- Tackling disinformation is national security issue says former NSA general counsel (CBS News, Michael Morell speaks with former NSA general counsel Glenn Gerstell)
- The Norwegian Intelligence Service’s assessment of current security challenges (2021)
- Germany is main target of Russian disinformation, EU says (Reuters)
- Don’t Wait for Them to Find You: What You Need to Know Today About Nation-State Threat Actors (Podcast, blog, Secure Works)
- The changing landscape of disinformation and cybersecurity threats: A recap from Verify 2019 (Hewlett)
- The Fake News Machine: How Propagandists Abuse the Internet and Manipulate the Public (Trend Micro)
- Chinese hackers targeted Uyghurs living in US, Facebook security team finds (CNN)
- Mapping Worldwide Initiatives to Counter Influence Operations (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace)
Emerging Disinformation Threats

The Capitol siege by white nationalists, Trump supporters and militia groups on January 6 that was grown out of a social media-led disinformation campaign has revealed new concerns from internet experts, threat researchers and more. How will tactics evolve, what sites will bad actors migrate to and what types of digital technology will be used to disrupt society in the weeks, months and years to come?

Reading Resources:
- What will misinformation look like in 2030 (and will we be better at spotting it by then)?
  (Laura Hazard Owen, NiemanLab)
- The Supply of Disinformation Will Soon Be Infinite
  (Renee DiResta, The Atlantic)
- How to deal with AI-enabled disinformation
  (John Villasenor, Brookings)
- Survey XII: Digital New Normal 2025—After the Outbreak—Hopes and worries for the evolution of humans and digital life in the wake of the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic
  (Report, Elon University)
- Assessing The Real Threat Posed By Deepfake Technology
  (International Banker)
- Deepfake master behind those viral Tom Cruise videos says the technology should be regulated
  (Fortune)

Selected Experts on the Topic:
- Renee DiResta technical research manager at Stanford Internet Observatory @noUpside
- Cameron Hickey Program Director for Algorithmic Transparency @cameronhickey
- Siwei Lyu SUNY Empire Innovation Professor
- Giorgio Patrini CEO of Deeptrace Labs
- Deborah Raji computer scientist in AI accountability @rajiinio
- Melissa Ryan digital researcher on Alt-right for CARD Strategies @MelissaRyan
Increasing the public’s media literacy and civic educational understanding has been viewed as a critical solution to the mis and disinformation problem American society is facing. Studies by research institutions and programs by schools and libraries have reflected an increasing demand for civic engagement and digital media literacy, and hopes that it can push back against political polarization and online radicalization.

Selected Experts on the Topic:
Danielle Allen, Stephen B. Heintz, and Eric P. Liu chairs, Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship
Michael Caulfield digital information literacy expert working at Washington State University Vancouver @holden
Francela Chica de Chinchilla VIP of Partnerships at EquisLabs
Patrisse Cullors co-founder, Black Lives Matter Movement @Osopatrisse
Dan Gillmor Arizona State University, News Co/Lab @dangillmor
Myaisha Hayes Campaign strategies director with Media Justice @MyaishaAyanna
Alan Miller Founder and CEO of the News Literacy Project
Terry Ao Minnis Senior Director of Census and Voting Programs with Asian Americans Advancing Justice, @Tao_Minnis

Reading Resources:
Media and Information Literacy: Reinforcing Human Rights, Countering Radicalization and Extremism (UNESCO report)
Massive investment in social studies and civics education proposed to address eroding trust in democratic institutions (Joe Heim, Washington Post)
Why Civic Education Is Key to Protecting Democracy (Douglas F. Challenger, New England Board of Higher Education)
Want to Stop the Next Crisis? Teaching Cyber Citizenship Must Become a National Priority (Time)

Massive investment in social studies and civics education proposed to address eroding trust in democratic institutions (Jan 2020, CNN’s Reliable Sources podcast)
Appendix

Recommended readings and resources not shared as materials for commissioners but useful for all those interested in the work surrounding information disorder.

Digital Resources

Disinformation
Annotated Bibliography
(The Citizen Lab)

Untangle misinformation using predictive media intelligence
(Newship)

Media & Migration Lab
(University of Central Florida)

Misinformation,
Disinformation and What Government Can Do About Them
(Governing.com)

@EUvsDisinfo
(EU East Stratcom Task Force)

Political Polarization
(Pew Research Center)

Exploring Media Literacy Education as a Tool for Mitigating Truth Decay
(Rand.org)

Media Literacy Education in Libraries for Adult Audiences
(American Library Association)

Exploring New Ways to Build Resilience to Misinformation
(Jigsaw)

European Digital Media Observatory

How Social Media Has Harmed the Growth of Democratic Culture by Design
(Berkeley Center)

The Infodemic Cleanse: How to detoxify your information diet
(Marc Ambinder)

Case Studies, Reports and Examples

Shifting attention to accuracy can reduce misinformation online
(Nature)

Birtherism of a Nation
(The Atlantic)

Butterfly Attack: The Origins Of Fake Antifa Social Media Accounts
(Media Manipulation)

Fake news victims are using lawsuits to shut down the lies. Can courts cure this plague?
(USA Today)

Joan Donovan’s Media Manipulation Case Study Database

What Americans Know and Don’t Know about Facebook and Google
(Center for Media Engagement, UT-Austin)

How disinformation evolved in 2020
(Brookings)

“This is Our House!” A Preliminary Assessment of the Capitol Hill Siege Participants
(Program on Extremism, George Washington University)

Online Extremism: Research Trends in Internet Activism, Radicalization, and Counter-Strategies
(International Journal of Conflict and Violence)

Do we need a Paris Agreement for tech? Here’s what world leaders and tech chiefs say
(World Economic Forum)

Collaborative Models for Understanding Influence Operations: Lessons From Defense Research
(Carnegie Endowment for International Development)
**Information Disorder Academics**

Alice Marwick  
Associate Professor of Communication and Principal Researcher at the Center for Information, Technology and Public Life  
@alicetara

Marc-André Argentino  
Research Fellow, International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation  
@_MAArgentino

Dean Freelon  
Associate professor, UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media  
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Sam Wooley  
Researcher and assistant professor with a focus on emerging media technologies and propaganda, UT-Austin  
@samuelwooley

Mutale NKonde  
CEO, AI for the People, AI advisor to UN  
@mutalenkonde

Brendan Nyhan  
political science professor, Dartmouth  
@BrendanNyhan

Lisa-Maria Neudert  
Ph.D candidate, Oxford Commission on AI & Good Governance  
@lmneudert

Irene Pasquetto  
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@IrenePasquetto

**Information Disorder Researchers**

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Nina Jankowitz  
disinformation fellow, The Wilson Center  
@wiczipedia

Brendan Nyhan  
political science professor, Dartmouth  
@BrendanNyhan

Lisa-Maria Neudert  
Ph.D candidate, Oxford Commission on AI & Good Governance  
@lmneudert

Irene Pasquetto  
Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan School of Information  
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**Information Disorder Journalists**

Maria Ressa  
co-founder of Rappler  
@mariressa

Brandy Zadrozny  
senior reporter, NBC News  
@BrandyZadrozny

Davey Alba  
reporter, The New York Times  
@daveyalba

Jane Lytvynenko  
senior reporter, Buzzfeed News  
@JanelLytv

Ben Collins  
senior reporter, NBC News  
@oneunderscore

Donie O’Sullivan  
reporter, CNN  
@donie

Shayan Sardarizadeh  
journalist, BBC  
@Shayan86

Daniel Funke  
staff writer, PolitiFact  
@dpfunke

Will Sommer  
Politics reporter, The Daily Beast  
@willsommer

Kevin Roose  
tech columnist, The New York Times  
@kevinroose

**Information Disorder in Tech**

Ben Nimmo  
Global IO Threat Intel Lead, Facebook  
@benimmo

Alexios Mantzarlis  
News and Information Credibility Lead, Google  
@Mantzarlis

**Information Disorder and Civics**

Louise Dube  
Executive Director, iCivics  
@louise_dube

Peter Levine  
Associate Dean for Research, The Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University  
@peterlevine

John King  
fmr Education Secretary in the Obama Administration  
@JohnKKing

Archon Fung  
Citizenship and Self-Government, Harvard Kennedy School  
@Artung

Hahrie Han  
political scientist at Johns Hopkins University and Inaugural Director of the SNF Agora Institute  
@hahriehan